

[No Report.]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MARCH 3, 1859.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr. GREENWOOD, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, reported
the following bill :

A BILL

To provide for the sale of reservations of land granted to individual
Indians in certain cases, and to regulate the disposition of
the proceeds thereof.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That where, by or pursuant to the provisions of any treaty
4 with any tribe of Indians, tracts of land, outside of the limits
5 of any tribal reservation, have been or shall be set apart for
6 the use of individual Indians, either of the full or mixed
7 bloods, to be held in severalty, and the power is reserved to
8 Congress or the President of the United States to authorize
9 the issue of patents therefor, and to make regulations respect-
10 ing the sale or alienation of such tracts, or where the treaty

11 is silent upon the subject, it shall and may be lawful for such
 12 reservees to sell and convey such tracts of land, whether they
 13 be held as reservations by the usual Indian title or by grant;
 14 and a deed of conveyance of such lands, duly executed by the
 15 reservee, shall be construed to vest in the purchaser a title in
 16 fee-simple to the land so conveyed: *Provided*, Such sales shall
 17 be made in conformity to such rules and regulations for the
 18 purpose of preventing fraud or imposition, and of securing to
 19 or for the reservees the full and fair value of their land, as
 20 may be prescribed by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
 21 with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided*,
 22 *further*, That no sale or conveyance of any such tracts shall
 23 be of any validity unless the same shall have been submitted
 24 to and received the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the Commis-
 2 sioner of Indian Affairs shall be, and he hereby is, authorized,
 3 whenever the interests of the reservee may render it expe-
 4 dient, to require the whole or any part of the purchase money
 5 for any such tract of land to be paid to the United States agent
 6 for the tribe to which the reservee belongs, or other officer of
 7 the United States authorized to receive it, and to retain the
 8 same to be afterwards applied, under the direction of the Sec-
 9 retary of the Interior, for the benefit of the reservee, in such
 10 manner as may be deemed best for his interest and welfare.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That where the tribal

2 reservation of any tribe of Indians is or shall be, in pursuance
3 of the provisions of any treaty with such tribe, or in pursuance
4 of any other regulation, divided among the individual members of
5 the tribe or bands to be held by them in severalty, no sales by in-
6 dividuals of the tracts assigned to them within the limits of such
7 reserve shall ever be made, except to members of the tribe
8 or to the United States. And if any person not employed
9 under the authority of the United States shall attempt to treat
10 or negotiate, directly or indirectly, with any individual Indian
11 of the full or mixed bloods for the purchase of any tract of
12 land held or claimed by him or by the tribe or band to which
13 he belongs, under the provisions of this section, such person
14 shall forfeit and pay the sum of one thousand dollars, to be
15 recovered, before any court of the United States having juris-
16 diction, in the manner prescribed in the twenty-seventh sec-
17 tion of the act of June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and thirty-
18 four, commonly called the Intercourse Act.

1 SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That patents are
2 hereby directed to be issued for lands allotted to members of
3 the Shawnee tribe of Indians under the treaty of May ten,
4 eighteen hundred and fifty-four, under such rules and regula-
5 tions as may be prescribed by the Commissioner of Indian
6 Affairs; and the provisions of this act shall apply to all other
7 Indians to whom lands have been set apart in severalty.